



Small Grants – Project Completion and Impact Report

Instructions to grantees: please complete all fields, and respond to all questions listed below.

Organization Legal Name	Friends of Ecosystem and the Environment – FEE
Project Title	“Community Led Coastal Biodiversity Management Project in Cestos-Senkwen”
Grant Number	CEPF-109617
Date of Report	February 28, 2020

CEPF Hotspot: GFWA

Strategic Direction: Empower local communities to engage in sustainable management of 40 priority sites and consolidate ecological connectivity at the landscape scale.

Grant Amount: 44,100.00 USD

Project Dates: August 1, 2018 – March 31, 2020 (With “No Cost Extension”)

PART I: Overview

1. Implementation Partners for this Project

List each partner and explain how they were involved in the project

📍 Local County Authorities of Rivercess County

The Local Authorities of Rivercess County have been very supportive of the project from its inception to date. The County Inspector of the county played a pivotal role in introducing FEE field team to the communities and was also instrumental in the selection of the four project communities. The Statutory and District Superintendents of Yarnee respectively played key roles in all project related meetings, consultations and trainings through their respective representatives. FEE’s field staff can boast of high level of cordiality received from the County Authorities who pleaded to Management for the continuous presence of the institution within the District and beyond.

📍 Women Groups within the four Project Communities

Gender consideration and mainstreaming with emphasis on women and adolescent girls’ participation is a key objective FEE envisages to achieve in its project implementations. This was the case of this project where high level of preference was given particularly to women groups within the four selected project communities (Po River, Jaster, Gbargboe and Neegba). These women were encouraged and allowed to fully participate in and lead demonstration exercises leading to the establishment and maintenance of the woodlots. These women were also instrumental in conducting biodiversity conservation awareness activities after receiving trainings as ambassadors.

2 Youth Groups within the four project communities

The participation of the Youth of the Yarnee Statutory District, particularly those from the four selected communities, was a key contributor to the achievement of the project objectives. These youth and student groups were very instrumental in spreading conservation messages in and beyond the classrooms to their “illiterate” parents. As a result of their full participation, these youth and student groups were very enthusiastic and committed their full support to the successful implementation of the project. They played leading roles in all project-related community meetings, trainings and practical field activities on biodiversity conservation. Majority of the community members involved in the maintenance of the woodlot are from this group. Selected individuals from this unique group were designated “Conservation Ambassadors” for their roles in raising conservation awareness and active participation in project activities within the communities.

2 Schools Authorities and Students

The Yarnee Community School System was very instrumental in the project implementation. The Authorities of these schools embraced the project from its inception and ensured the full participation of their student’s representatives in meetings and trainings. As a result of their desire to have their students well informed about the coastal environment, biodiversity and other natural resources, the schools authorities encouraged the enhancement of the nature clubs within their respective schools which helped in spreading the conservation messages and keeping the campus and environments clean. FEE therefore collaborated with the schools’ instructors to revamp and sustain their nature clubs which were not active due to lack of resources. Students also benefited from their involvement in the various trainings and the woodlot establishment.

2 Society for the Conservation of Nature of Liberia (SCNL)

As the premier biodiversity conservation organization in Liberia, the Society for the Conservation of Nature of Liberia (SCNL) was approached by FEE from the initial project proposal development stage to advise on the project should it be successful. With the awarding of the project, FEE again approached the SCNL to participate in the project inception phase. Hence, the SCNL Executive Director joined the team that held the first levels of consultation with the Superintendent and other government entities at the seat of Rivercess County. Those consultations resulted in the selection of Yarnee Statutory District as the idea area for the project implementation. The SCNL continued its support and follow ups on project implementation to ensure its success by assigning several of her employee to the monitoring and evaluation team that visited the project site. Throughout this period, the expertise of SCNL was considered.

2 Green Globe Consultancy (GGC)

FEE hired the expertise of Green Globe Consultancy Inc. to conduct series of project activities ranging from the conduct of biodiversity awareness activities, biophysical baseline and socio economic surveys, to the training on the establishment and maintenance of woodlots. GGC developed and shared with the local field project team a well elaborated handout on biodiversity awareness made to ensure sustained awareness activities within the project communities. With no doubt, such initiative form part of the long term sustainability of the project.

2. Summarize the overall results/impact of your project (Talk about coastal protected area system, coastal and terrestrial biodiversity conservation and species and habitat protection)

The following results were obtained:

- ☐ About 70% of the population within the Yarnee Statutory District of Rivercess County are aware of their negative impacts on the mangrove ecosystem and are contributing to its protection;
- ☐ Human pressure on coastal and marine ecosystems including habitats, endangered and threatened species is reduced significantly in LBR-1;
- ☐ 24 site management personnel, comprising 6 individuals from each of the 4 selected communities, are put in place and currently leading conservation efforts;
- ☐ At least 6 individuals representing each of the 4 targeted communities are trained in woodlots establishment and maintenance to serve as substitute to fuelwood from the mangroves;
- ☐ A simplified training manual is produced and distributed among the 4 project communities to guide the establishment and expansion of woodlots in the project communities beyond the project lifespan;
- ☐ Public awareness, in the 4 selected communities, targeting local resource users and decision-makers on the importance of protecting endangered and threatened species and their natural habitats, were fully conducted;
- ☐ Local protected status of endangered and migrant species, key critical, unique and vulnerable coastal, marine and wetland ecosystem and habitat is known by inhabitants in the 4 targeted communities through series of awareness raising activities;
- ☐ Ecological, social and attitudinal survey conducted and reported;
- ☐ Livelihood impacts on biodiversity assessed and report produced with recommendations;
- ☐ Community protection of areas such as key breeding, nesting and feeding grounds for globally significant species is established;
- ☐ At least 2 hectares of degraded land were restored and maintained through woodlots establishment;
- ☐ Long term income generating enterprises (community managed woodlots) are established across the 4 project communities.

3. Briefly describe actual progress towards each planned long-term and short-term impact (as stated in the approved proposal)

List each long-term impact from your proposal

a. Planned Long-term Impacts - 3+ years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
Support the local people's efforts to strengthen the coastal protected area system and conservation of globally significant species and habitats in the Cestos-Senkwen	The local communities are trained to conduct rapid ecological assessment, create conservation awareness, restore degraded habitats and protect the biodiversity of the area.

b. Planned Short-term Impacts - 1 to 3 years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
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<p>Promote sustainable management of the coastal ecosystem.</p>	<p>Series of meetings were planned and executed in the 4 selected communities to promote sustainable management of coastal ecosystems and natural resources. Based on a designed biodiversity conservation awareness manual, FEE's continuous awareness activities were aimed at ensuring that affected communities understand the significance of conserving and sustainably managing their biological diversity and ecosystem and eventually contribute to stabilizing or increasing the number of priority species in LBR-1.</p>
<p>Strengthen national collaboration to achieve conservation outcomes and livelihood improvement</p>	<p>FEE recruited GGC to develop and implement tailored training in biodiversity conservation and awareness raising, nursery establishment and management and ecological research methodology and implementation, among others. A total of 28 participants (communities and FEE staff) benefited from this training and are currently serving as ambassadors in the project communities and beyond. For the nursery establishment training, GGC used field-based/agroforestry approach since most of the participants were farmers. About 24 participants, consisting of 6 participants from each of the 4 communities, benefited from the nursery training. For the ecological research methodology, about 12 community participants benefited from this training and were very instrumental in assisting GGC and FEE field-based team in the project implementation.</p>
<p>Influence government decision to improve the status of LBR1</p>	<p>FEE had series of meetings and discussions with the authorities of FDA and EPA on the need to upgrade the status of the proposed Cestos-Senkwen protected area to a marine protected area. These discussions did not achieve the intended outcomes as FDA authorities continuously indicated the lack of financial resources and low human capacities to mend a marine protected area in Liberia.</p> <p>FEE recruited a consulting firm, GGC, to interpret the National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan (NBSAP) to the understanding of the local community with the aim of sensitizing them on the need for their full involvement in the protection and sustainable management of the biodiversity and ecosystems in LBR1.</p>

Foster participatory management of the mangrove reserve	<p>The establishment and maintenance of communities' woodlots in 4 project communities on degraded farmlands. A total number of 2.2 hectares of degraded land were restored as woodlots under this project. The maintenance exercise was carried out by the local project team as part of the sustainability element. The species selected are all common to the area with level of adaptation to the soil and climate of Cestos-Senkwen. There were also interventions. A community watch team was set up for that purpose and were being compensated by the Catholic Mission in the area.</p> <p>FEE conducted an analysis using information gathered during the profiling stage to understand the status of each community established rules and regulation as well as their level of implementation. For the 4 targeted communities, majority of the respondents admitted to their recognition of the existence of local rules and regulations governing the use and sustainable management of their natural resources which they subscribe to.</p>
Assess the existing livelihood and the impact on biodiversity	<p>The result of the assessment showed that the communities depended solely on fishing, farming, commercialization of mangroves, petit trading and mining for their livelihoods. Associated impacts induced by these outlined livelihood activities, were identified as unsustainable farming (food and cash crops), increased bush-meat hunting and trade, harvesting of sea turtles and their eggs, and increased pressure on mangroves for fuelwood, charcoal, poles, dye and other uses.</p>
Promote sustainable livelihood initiative through long term investment for communities	<p>For each targeted community, project team was organized with their roles and responsibilities outlined to lead on the community livelihood initiatives (e.g. sales of fire wood, timber, NTFPs, carbon, medicines...) with a work plan developed to guide their activities. As part of the capacity building processes, the various communities' project teams were trained to continuously monitor and maintain the woodlots after the project lifespan.</p>

4. Describe the success or challenges of the project toward achieving its short-term and long-term impacts

❑ Poor road conditions in the project areas

Since the inception of the project, the road condition to and from the project site has been a great challenge. This have caused the project a lot of unplanned expenditures especially considering the number of break downs and damages to vehicles conveying project materials and equipment to the project sites. Another challenge was the short-notice removal of the Timbo River Bridge connecting Rivercess County to other parts of Liberia which resulted in the team reverting to alternative longer routes with challenging passages. Yarnee District, where the project was implemented, is located across the Cestos River which can only be accessed by canoes and fishing boats at all times. The road network between the project communities is very challenging due to the poor conditions of handmade bridges (not regularly maintain). The tracks within the areas are also man-made and are flooded during the raining season.

❑ Data collection during the rainy season

The ecological and biodiversity data collection exercise took place in April when the rainy season is at its most intense in Liberia. The methods used for the rapid assessment of fauna and flora were survey reconnaissance and the establishment of quadrats. Unfortunately, the indicators of indirect observations like footprints and feeding areas are not visible during intensive rainfall.

② Increase in the prices of essential commodities

The skyrocket increase of the foreign exchange rate against the local Liberian dollars had led to a rise in the prices of essential commodities across the county. This inflation created difficulties in accessing basic needs, resulting in scarcity and aggravating the rise in the cost of living.

② High expectation of project community dwellers during called meetings

Due to the high poverty level and hardship encountered by the population, especially in the project area which is isolated from the rest of the county, there were high expectations from community members and the local leadership during called meetings and consultations. In the midst of this challenge, FEE field staff continuously encouraged community members to attend meetings and contribute to the project implementation including the woodlot establishment which would bring economic dividend to the community.

5. Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

The following unexpected impacts were recorded as a result of the project intervention:

- ② Students within the project communities and beyond increased their interests in environment and biodiversity conservation activities. Building up on their students' awareness raising, schools requested financial and technical assistance from FEE to revamp their pre-existing Nature Clubs which weren't functional due to financial and other reasons. FEE provided the requested technical support and Clubs are now viable and functioning institution as of the project closure.
- ② The citizens within the project communities, Yarnee District, have over the years accused NGOs and the government of neglecting and depriving them of all support including financial and technical which, in their minds, made them to feel being abandoned. They were therefore very enthusiastic and cooperative in supporting the project implementation and further requested a continuation of FEE's intervention in the District and beyond.
- ② The government of Liberia, through the Forestry Development Authority (FDA), surprisingly informed FEE of its unpreparedness to designate the Cestos-Senkwen area as a marine protected area due to the lack of financial resources and low staff capacities and education to mend such new venture in Liberia. Unlike the traditional terrestrial protected areas, the establishment of marine protected area is new to Liberia. The management of the FDA therefore requested that FEE holds on with their intervention in the Cestos Senkwen area until the completion of a pilot exercise led by Conservation International (CI) in the Marshall wetland. Afterwards, lessons learned will be replicated to other parts of Liberia including the Cestos-Senkwen. In addition, communities initially misunderstood the marine protected area concept and thought that they were going to be denied access to the ocean and fishing, jeopardizing their livelihoods. So, they initially resisted that component of the project until FEE, through sustained awareness and sensitization activities, managed to convince them and successfully changed their minds and attitudes towards the establishment of the marine protected area in Rivercess County.

- ☐ During FEE’s reconnaissance mission to Rivercess County to guide the development of the CEPF proposal which took place during the peak of the dry season, the tides of the river were very low. Surprisingly, there were very high tides during most part the project implementation period due to the intense seasonal rainfalls. In addition, the only bridge linking Rivercess County to the rest of Liberia was damaged and abruptly removed during most part of the project implementation period. These two unexpected challenges impeded the movement of people as well as goods and services which automatically had its impacts on prices of commodities within the project communities.

- ☐ The communities, academic institutions and churches within the project landscape were very enthusiastic and pleaded to the management of FEE to continue its intervention to save the environment and biodiversity of the area. They also requested the development of community gardens through agroforestry programs but unfortunately, there was no budget allocated to that intervention. The Catholic Mission further requested a partnership with FEE to collaborate on future conservation projects and promised to source out additional funding to complement FEE’s work.

- ☐ As a result of the community consultation including community members and leadership, local county authorities, academic institutions, fishermen groupings and other well-meaning stakeholders, it was agreed that FEE would work with the communities to establish woodlots in the degraded portion of the terrestrial landscape and allow the mangrove to regenerate. At that inception meeting, the communities especially the fishermen, who were in the habit of cutting the mangroves for fuelwood and drying of fishes, committed to redirecting their efforts to the natural terrestrial forest while awaiting the development of the woodlot. They also committed to working with FEE in establishing several woodlots to reduce the pressures on the mangroves.

PART II: Project Components and Products/Deliverables

6. Components (as stated in the approved proposal)

List each component and product/deliverable from your proposal

6. Describe the results for each deliverable:

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	Sub- #	Description	Results for Deliverable
1	To promote sustainable management of the coastal ecosystem	1.1	Conduct socioeconomic analysis and biodiversity data collection in the project area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ About 70% of the local people in Yarnee Statutory District of Rivercess County are aware of their negative impacts on the mangrove which is a habitat for high value species. ☐ Community protection of areas such as key breeding, nesting and feeding grounds for globally significant species is established.

		1.2	Conduct continuous awareness campaigns in project communities on biodiversity friendly activities identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Endangered/threatened species and habitat public awareness campaigns (brochures, radio and TV programs) were conducted targeting local resource users and decision-makers in the 4 selected communities. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local protected status for endangered and migrant species, key critical, unique and vulnerable coastal, marine and wetland ecosystem and habitat is known by inhabitants in the 4 project communities through series of awareness raising activities. <input type="checkbox"/> Human pressure on coastal and marine ecosystems, habitats and endangered and threatened species has reduced significantly in LBR-1.
2	To foster participatory management of the mangrove reserve	2.1	Establishment and maintenance of woodlots in 4 communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> At least 2 hectares of degraded land are restored and maintained. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A simple training manual is produced and distributed among the 4 targeted communities to guide the woodlots establishment.
3	To promote sustainable livelihood initiative through long term investment for communities	3.1	Long term income generating enterprises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> At least 6 individuals from each of the 4 selected communities were trained in woodlots establishment and maintenance and are currently working with FEE project staff to maintain their respective woodlots to serve as substitute to fuelwood from the mangrove. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Training in conservation awareness, nursery establishment, and data collection in the project communities realized. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Development of norms to support the redress of the major threats.
4	To assess the existing livelihood and the impact on biodiversity	4.1	Conduct ecological, social and attitudinal survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Livelihood impacts on biodiversity assessed and reported with recommendations.
5	To strengthen national	5.1	Collate laws and policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consultant firm GGC, interpreted the NBSAP to the understanding of the local community

	collaboration to achieve conservation outcomes and livelihood improvement		documents to review and align them at local level for awareness raising purpose	to ensure their support to the protection and sustainable management of the biodiversity and ecosystems in LBR1.
6	To influence government decision to improve the status of LBR1	6.1	Advocacy to upgrade Cestos-Senkwen protected area to a marine protected area	☑ Held series of meetings and discussions with FDA and EPA on the need to upgrade the status of the proposed Cestos-Senkwen protected area.

7. Please describe and submit any tools, products, or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results.

The following products resulting from the project implementation were developed and shared with relevant stakeholders including the county authorities, communities, Forestry Development Authority (FDA), etc. Please see as annexes to this report:

1. Report on Community Norms;
2. Biodiversity Conservation Awareness Manual;
3. Biophysical, Socio-economic and Livelihood Report;
4. Converting NBSAP at Local Level
5. Monitoring and Evaluation Report; and

PART III: Lessons, Sustainability, Safeguards and Financing

Lessons Learned

8. Describe any lessons learned during the design and implementation of the project, as well as any related to organizational development and capacity building.

- ☑ The development and implementation of this project in LBR1 was very timely as this was the very first of its kind in the area as evidenced by the communities' concerns. The fact that the project used the shareholder participatory approach including the community leadership in the sustainable management of their natural resources, facilitated their buy-in and support throughout the project implementation.
- ☑ Prior to the project proposal development, FEE consulted only with county authorities in Cestos City and could not make it to the communities due to some constraints beyond our reach. It was actually prudent to have also consulted with the "would be" affected communities to ascertain their views on our planned project implementation. This shortcoming resulted in a change in FEE's planned mangrove restoration intervention towards the establishment of woodlots and restoration activities on degraded farmlands. During the inception meeting, the communities recommended natural regeneration of the mangrove which should have been considered from

the project development phase even though the area really needed some restoration interventions. But during the project implementation, FEE realized the need for continuous biodiversity conservation awareness interventions within this landscape as there has never been any “on the ground” intervention with the exception of a work that was undertaken on sea turtle conservation.

- ② There was a change of government between the project development and implementation phases. During the project development phase, the previous administration at the FDA expressed interest in FEE attempts to lead the establishment of the Cestos-Senkwen as a marine protected area but the new administration indicated the lack of financial resources and capacities to mend such protected area category especially considering it being very new in Liberia. This also challenge the implementation of that component of the project as FEE could not move forward after this meeting with the FDA management.
- ② The nature of the project which focused on community full participation in the sustainable management of the natural resources, couple with the continuous presence of FEE staff in the various communities serve as enough motivation to get the community support for the project implementation. There was also political buy in from the local county authorities with the County Inspector constantly paying visits in the field to check on the status of the project implementation. The management of FEE constantly updated the county authority on the status of the project and shared copies of all products from the project with them.
- ② FEE recruited six (6) local project staff in each of the 4 project communities to enhance project implementation and hired a local conservation NGO, GGC, to train and build the capacity of project field staff in various aspects of conservation and the maintenance of woodlots, awareness creation and data collection on species and their habitats.
- ② The fact that the project communities initially embraced the project from its inception and was fully involved throughout its implementation to its closure was a sign of gratitude for FEE intervention in their community. They further requested FEE to seek other opportunities to ensure its continuous presence within their communities. In addition, the communities offered land space for the establishment of the woodlots, organized themselves to monitor the use of their mangroves, and were prepared to provide additional land spaces for the expansion of the woodlots. This was very motivating and a sign of promoting and achieving conservation outcomes in this unique landscape.

Sustainability / Replication

9. Summarize the success or challenges in ensuring the project will be sustained or replicated, including any unplanned activities that are likely to result in increased sustainability or replicability.

The willingness of the people to collaborate with the implementing institution led to the following to be considered as sustainability elements under the project:

- ☐ The beneficiaries were trained in biodiversity conservation awareness creation which is currently ongoing in the midst of the project closure;
- ☐ The local communities project team members were trained in field data collection methods;
- ☐ The beneficiaries were informed about the importance of mangroves and related cost and benefits which resulted in them organizing themselves to monitor and protect the mangroves;
- ☐ The beneficiaries' capacities were built in woodlots establishment and maintenance in each of the 4 selected communities;
- ☐ The project communities were trained on landscape restoration processes as well as mangrove restoration and are currently leading restoration initiatives through the nature clubs;
- ☐ All schools within the project communities have their own nature conservation clubs which are undertaking sustained conservation awareness and related activities in their communities.

Safeguards

10. If not listed as a separate Project Component and described above, summarize the implementation of any required action related to social or environmental safeguards that your project may have triggered.

Additional Funding

11. Provide details of any additional funding that supported this project and any funding secured for the project, organization, or the region, as a result of CEPF investment

a. Total additional funding (US\$).
USD \$14 000

b. Type of funding

Please provide a breakdown of additional funding (counterpart funding and in-kind) by source, categorizing each contribution into one of the following categories:

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes
FEE	A-Project Co-Financing	\$14,000.00	In-kind contribution

* Categorize the type of funding as:

- A *Project Co-Financing (other donors or your organization contribute to the direct costs of this project)*
- B *Grantee and Partner Leveraging (other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF funded project)*
- C *Regional/Portfolio Leveraging (other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project)*

Additional Comments/Recommendations

12. Use this space to provide any further comments or recommendations in relation to your project or CEPF.

Considering the estimated population size of Yarnee Statutory District (about 1,145 individuals) its richness and uniqueness in terms of biodiversity couple with its isolated location, the project was very significant in creating much needed awareness and sensitization on the significance of sustainably managing the biodiversity and associated ecosystem. However, the project could not resolve most of the key issues as were identified during the actual implementation phase due to limited resources and other unforeseen constrains. The communities over anxiety overwhelmed the actual resources available to implement the project so FEE could only undertake baseline activities with the hope of taking advantage of other future funding opportunities to enhance communities’ capacities and implement those identified conservation related projects.

In light of the above, FEE recommends increased technical and financial support from the CEPF to continue its work within LBR1 and beyond as its niche. This project exposed most of the shortcomings within this area which FEE intends to tackle in the future. FEE also recommends an increase in the budget within the upcoming calls to enable detailed community mangrove restoration activities and coastal resource management initiatives in addition to existing conservation efforts being undertaken.

PART IV: Impact at Portfolio and Global Level

CEPF requires that each grantee report on impact at the end of the project. The purpose of this report is to collect data that will contribute to CEPF’s portfolio and global indicators. CEPF will aggregate the data that you submit with data from other grantees, to determine the overall impact of CEPF investment. CEPF’s aggregated results will be reported on in our annual report and other communications materials.

Ensure that the information provided pertains to the entire project, from start date to project end date.

Contribution to Portfolio Indicators

13. If CEPF assigned one or more Portfolio Indicators to your project during the full proposal preparation phase, please list these below and report on the project’s contribution(s) to them.

Indicator		Narrative
Outcome 1: Local communities are empowered to engage in sustainable management of 40 priority sites and consolidate ecological connectivity at the landscape scale	At least 30 local communities targeted by sustainable livelihood/ job creation activities or benefit- sharing mechanisms show tangible wellbeing benefits	4 local communities (more than 800 inhabitants) within the Cestos-Senkwen KBA are aware of their negative impacts on the mangrove ecosystem and other biodiversity and empowered to sustainably manage their biodiversity and ecosystem through various trainings and capacity building programs ranging from biodiversity conservation awareness creation, nursery establishment, biodiversity field data collection, and livelihood enhancement. 4 local communities selected to establish and maintain their respective woodlots on degraded farmlands with the goal of enhancing the wellbeing of the inhabitants through income generations.

		A total number of 2.2 hectares of degraded land were restored as woodlots under this project. The species selected are all common to the area with level of adaptation to the soil and climate of Cestos-Senkwen.
Outcome 2: Biodiversity conservation mainstreamed into public policy and private sector practice in 9 conservation corridors, at local, sub-national and national levels	Locally-relevant information on natural ecosystems is generated for at least 20 key biodiversity areas and used to influence political and economic decision making in favour of their conservation	FEE recruited a consulting firm, GGC, to undertake the following activities; -Interpret the National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan (NBSAP) to the understanding of the 4 targeted local communities with the aim of sensitizing them on the need for their full involvement in the protection and sustainable management of the biodiversity and ecosystems in LBR1.- Conduct socio-economic studies and produce the following working documents; (i) Community norms report; (ii) Biodiversity conservation awareness manual; (iii) Biophysical, socio-economic and livelihood impact report and; (iv) Monitoring and evaluation report, which will contribute to influencing national policy decisions on biodiversity conservation in the KBA as well as its designation as a marine protected area in the very near future.

Contribution to Global Indicators

Please report on all Global Indicators (sections 16 to 23 below) that pertain to your project.

14. Key Biodiversity Area Management

Number of hectares of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA) with improved management

Please report on the number of hectares in KBAs with improved management, as a result of CEPF investment. Examples of improved management include, but are not restricted to: increased patrolling, reduced intensity of snaring, invasive species eradication, reduced incidence of fire, and introduction of sustainable agricultural/fisheries practices. Do not record the entire area covered by the project - only record the number of hectares that have improved management.

If you have recorded part or all of a KBA as newly protected for the indicator entitled “protected areas” (section 17 below), and you have also improved its management, you should record the relevant number of hectares for both this indicator and the “protected areas” indicator.

Name of KBA	# of Hectares with strengthened management *	Is the KBA Not protected, partially protected or Fully protected? Please select one: NP/PP/FP
LBR1	2.2 hectares	NP

** Do not count the same hectares more than once. For example, if 500 hectares were improved due to implementation of a fire management regime in the first year, and 200 of these same 500 hectares were*

improved due to invasive species removal in the second year, the total number of hectares with improved management would be 500.

15. Protected Areas

15a. Number of hectares of protected areas created and/or expanded

Report on the number of hectares of protected areas that have been created or expanded as a result of CEPF investment.

Name of PA*	Country(s)	# of Hectares	Year of legal declaration or expansion	Longitude**	Latitude**

* If possible please provide a shape file of the protected area to CEPF.

** Indicate the latitude and longitude of the center of the site, to the extent possible, or send a map or shapefile to CEPF. Give geographic coordinates in decimal degrees; latitudes in the Southern Hemisphere and longitudes in the Western Hemisphere should be denoted with a minus sign (example: Latitude 38.123456 Longitude: -77.123456).

15b. Protected area management

If you have been requested to submit a Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT), please follow the instructions below. If you have not been requested to submit a METT, please go directly to section 16.

Should you want to know more about the monitoring of protected area management effectiveness and the tracking tool, please click [here](#).

Download the METT template which can be found on [this page](#) and then work with the protected area authorities to fill it out. Please go to the Protected Planet website [here](#) and search for your protected area in their database to record its associated WDPA ID. Then please fill in the following table:

WDPA ID	PA Official Name	Date of METT*	METT Total Score

* Please indicate when the METT was filled by the authorities of the park or provide a best estimate if the exact date is unknown. And please only provide METTs less than 12 months old.

Please do not forget to submit the completed METT together with this report.

16. Production landscape

Please report on the number of hectares of production landscapes with strengthened management of biodiversity, as a result of CEPF investment. A production landscape is defined as a landscape where agriculture, forestry or natural product exploitation occurs. Production landscapes may include KBAs, and therefore hectares counted under the indicator entitled “KBA Management” may also be counted here. Examples of interventions include: best practices and guidelines implemented, incentive schemes introduced, sites/products certified and sustainable harvesting regulations introduced.

Number of hectares of production landscapes with strengthened management of biodiversity.

Name of Production Landscape*	# of Hectares**	Latitude***	Longitude***	Description of Intervention

* If the production landscape does not have a name, provide a brief descriptive name for the landscape.

**Do not count the same hectares more than once. For example, if 500 hectares were strengthened due to certification in the first year, and 200 of these same 500 hectares were strengthened due to new harvesting regulations in the second year, the total number of hectares strengthened to date would be 500.

*** Indicate the latitude and longitude of the center of the site, to the extent possible, or send a map or shapefile to CEPF. Give geographic coordinates in decimal degrees; latitudes in the Southern Hemisphere and longitudes in the Western Hemisphere should be denoted with a minus sign (example: Latitude 38.123456 Longitude: -77.123456).

17. Beneficiaries

CEPF wants to record two types of benefits that are likely to be received by individuals: structured training and increased income. Please report on the number of men and women that have benefited from structured training (such as financial management, beekeeping, horticulture) and/or increased income (such as from tourism, agriculture, medicinal plant harvest/production, fisheries, handicraft production) as a result of CEPF investment. Please provide results since the start of your project to project completion.

17a. Number of men and women receiving structured training.

# of men receiving structured training *	# of women receiving structured training *
21 men trained in trees nursery development and woodlots establishment and maintenance, awareness raising, biodiversity conservation awareness creation and field data collection.	3 women trained in trees nursery development and woodlots establishment and maintenance, awareness raising, biodiversity conservation awareness creation and field data collection.

*Please do not count the same person more than once. For example, if 5 men received structured training in beekeeping, and 3 of these also received structured training in project management, the total number of men who benefited from structured training should be 5.

17b. Number of men and women receiving cash benefits.

# of men receiving cash benefits*	# of women receiving cash benefits*

*Please do not count the same person more than once. For example, if 5 men received cash benefits due to tourism, and 3 of these also received cash benefits from increased income due to handicrafts, the total number of men who received cash benefits should be 5.

18. Benefits to Communities

CEPF wants to record the benefits received by communities, which can differ to those received by individuals because the benefits are available to a group. CEPF also wants to record, to the extent possible, the number of people within each community who are benefiting. Please report on the characteristics of the communities, the type of benefits that have been received during the project, and the number of men/boys and women/girls from these communities that have benefited, as a result of CEPF investment. If exact numbers are not known, please provide an estimate.

18a. Please provide information for all communities that have benefited from project start to project completion.

Name of Community	Community Characteristics (mark with x)							Type of Benefit (mark with x)									# of Beneficiaries	
	S u b s i s t e n c e e c o n o m y	S m a l l o w e r s	I n d i g n e d o p e r a t i o n s	P a r t i c i p a t i o n s	R e c e i v e d	U r b a n c o m m u n i t i e s	O t h e r*	I n c r e a s e d a c c e s s t o c l e a n w a t e r	I n c r e a s e d f o o d s e c u r i t y	I n c r e a s e d a c c e s s t o e n e r g y	I n c r e a s e d a c c e s s t o p u b l i c s e r v i c e s (e.g . health care, education)	I n c r e a s e d r e s i l i e n c e t o c l i m a t e c h a n g e	I m p r o v e d l a n d t e n u r e	I m p r o v e d r e c o g n i t i o n o f t r a d i t i o n a l k n o w l e d g e	I m p r o v e d r e p r e s e n t a t i o n a n d d e c i s i o n m a k i n g i n g o v e r n a n c e f o r u m s /st	I m p r o v e d a c c e s s t o e c o s y s t e m s e r v i c e s	# of men and boys benefiting	# of women and girls benefiting

																structure			
Neegba	X		X									X	X	X		X	180	110	
Gbagboe town	X		X									X	X	X		X	150	74	
Jaster	X		X									X	X	X		X	100	60	
Po river	X		X									X	X	X		X	75	51	
Cestos City (County Authority)	X		X									X	X	X		X	3	0	

*If you marked "Other" to describe the community characteristic, please explain:

18b. Geolocation of each community

Indicate the latitude and longitude of the center of the community, to the extent possible, or upload a map or shapefile. Give geographic coordinates in decimal degrees; latitudes in the Southern Hemisphere and longitudes in the Western Hemisphere should be denoted with a minus sign (example: Latitude 38.123456 Longitude: -77.123456).

Name of Community	Latitude	Longitude
Po River	00930151	0523764
Gbagboe	00931358	0525014
Jaster	00932007	0526340
Neegba	00933636	0525884

							e m e n t													

19b. For each law, policy or regulation listed above, please provide the requested information in accordance with its assigned number.

No.	Country(s)	Date enacted/amended MM/DD/YYYY	Expected impact	Action that you performed to achieve this change

20. Sustainable Financing Mechanism

Sustainable financing mechanisms generate financial resources for the long-term (generally five or more years). Examples of sustainable financial mechanisms include conservation trust funds, debt-for-nature swaps, payment for ecosystem services (PES) schemes, and other revenue, fee or tax schemes that generate long-term funding for conservation.

All CEPF grantees (or sub-grantees) with project activities that pertain to the creation and/or the implementation of a sustainable financing mechanism are requested to provide information on the mechanism and the funds it delivered to conservation projects during the project timeframe, unless another grantee involved with the same mechanism has already been or is expected to be tasked with this.

CEPF requires that all sustainable financing mechanism projects to provide the necessary information at their completion.

20a. Details about the mechanism

Fill in this table for as many mechanisms you worked on during your project implementation as needed.

NO.	Name of financing mechanism	Purpose of the mechanism*	Date of Establishment**	Description***	Countries
1					

*Please provide a succinct description of the mission of the mechanism.

**Please indicate when the sustainable financing mechanism was officially created. If you do not know the exact date, provide a best estimate.

***Description, such as trust fund, endowment, PES scheme, incentive scheme, etc.

20b. Performance of the mechanism

For each Financing Mechanism listed previously, please provide the requested information in accordance with its assigned number.

NO.	Project intervention*	\$ Amount disbursed to conservation projects**	Period under Review (MM/YYYY -MM/YYYY)***
1			

*List whether the CEPF grant has helped to create a new mechanism (Created a mechanism) or helped to support an existing mechanism (Supported an existing mechanism) or helped to create and then support a new mechanism (Created and supported a new mechanism).

**Please only indicate the USD amount disbursed to conservation projects during the period of implementation of your project and using, when needed, the exchange rate on the day of your report.

***Please indicate the period of implementation of your project or the period considered for the amount you indicated.

Please do not forget to submit any relevant document which could provide justification for the amount you stated above.

21. Biodiversity-friendly Practices

Please describe any biodiversity-friendly practices that companies have adopted as a result of CEPF investment. A company is defined as a legal entity made up of an association of people, be they natural, legal, or a mixture of both, for carrying on a commercial or industrial enterprise. While companies take various forms, for the purposes of CEPF, a company is defined as a for-profit business entity. A biodiversity-friendly practice is one that conserves or uses biodiversity sustainably.

Number of companies that adopt biodiversity-friendly practices

No.	Name of company	Description of biodiversity-friendly practice adopted during the project
1		

22. Networks & Partnerships

Please report on any new networks or partnerships between civil society groups and across to other sectors that you have established or strengthened as a result of CEPF investment. Networks/partnerships should have some lasting benefit beyond immediate project implementation. Informal networks/partnerships are acceptable even if they do not have a Memorandum of Understanding or other type of validation. Examples of networks/partnerships include: an alliance of fisher folk to promote sustainable fisheries practices, a network of environmental journalists, a partnership between one or more NGOs with one or more private sector partners to improve biodiversity management on private lands, a working group focusing on reptile conservation. Please do not use this tab to list the partners in your project, unless some or all of them are part of such a network / partnership described above.

Number of networks and/or partnerships created and/or strengthened

No.	Name of Network	Name of Partnership	Year established	Did your project establish this Network/ Partnership? Y/N	Country(s) covered	Purpose
1						

23. Gender

If you have been requested to submit a Gender Tracking Tool (GTT), please follow the instructions provided in the Excel GTT template. If you have not been requested to submit a GTT, please go directly to Part V.

Should you want to know more about CEPF Gender Policy, please click [here](#).

Download the GTT template which can be found on [this page](#) and then work with your team to fill it out. Please do not forget to submit the completed GTT together with this report.

Part V. Information Sharing and CEPF Policy

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned, and results. Final project completion reports are made available on our Web site, www.cepf.net, and publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

Please include your full contact details below:

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